

In the Claims

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 (presented below in the revised format of January 31, 2003) the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-6, 12, 13 and 16-19 (Cancel)

Claim 7 (Previously Amended): A method for providing usage information of a first web site designated by a user, the method comprising:

receiving, from the user, a designation of the first web site as a homepage,
wherein the homepage is any web site on a communication network;

monitoring usage of the homepage by a plurality of users; and

transmitting data representative of the usage to the user when the user is connected to a communication network.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 7, further comprising:

displaying to the user the usage information in a graphical format.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 7, further comprising:

displaying to the user the usage information in a text format.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein the usage information is displayed automatically to the user.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein the usage information is displayed only upon a command generated by the user.

Claim 14 (Previously Amended): A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for providing usage information of a first web site designated by a user, the method comprising:

receiving, from the user, a designation of the first web page as a homepage wherein the homepage is any web site on a communication network;

monitoring usage of the homepage by a plurality of users; and

transmitting data representative of the usage to the user when the user is connected to the communication network.

Claim 15 (Previously Amended): An apparatus for providing usage information of a first web site designated by a user, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory storing processing instructions for controlling the processor, the processor operative with the processing instructions to:

receive, from the user, a designation of the first web page as a homepage wherein the homepage is any web site on a communication network;

monitor usage of the homepage by a plurality of users; and

transmit data representative of the usage to the user when the user is connected to the communication network.

Claim 20 (New): The method of claim 7, wherein the usage information

comprises of an indication of a most-popular next-visited web site for the plurality of users;

an indication of web sites visited by the plurality of users prior to visiting the first web site; and

an indication of when and for how long the plurality of users visited the first web site.